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# County of San Diego

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

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## ***TAXIMETER INSPECTION QUESTIONS & ANSWERS***

- ✓ ***What is a Notice of Violation?*** It is a statement that a violation of State laws has occurred. A Notice of Violation for over-registration, meaning the meter is charging a mile when less than a mile was actually traveled, usually results in enforcement action including administrative civil penalties ranging on average from \$150 to \$350. Repeated violations within a two-year period may increase the penalties from \$400 to \$1,000. When you receive the Notice of Violation, some passengers have probably already been overcharged. It may seem like a small amount per mile, but think of the average number of miles your passengers travel, and the number of passengers you have each day. It adds up.
- ✓ ***What should I do if I receive a Notice of Violation?*** Notify the business owner right away, as certain violations must be corrected immediately. Other violations provide for up to 30 days to correct them. Please be sure to ask your Inspector if you have any questions about the violation.
- ✓ ***What happens after I have received a Notice of Violation?*** A re-inspection will be conducted within 30 days to ensure meter accuracy returning to compliance. We may also notify the business owner within 60 days explaining any proposed penalties and the right to an administrative hearing.
- ✓ ***How do I prevent future violations?*** The business owner is responsible for maintaining the accuracy of the taximeter being used. A licensed service agent can verify the accuracy of the meter as part of the regular maintenance. There are cab companies that provide preventative maintenance taximeter inspections to their drivers.
- ✓ ***What can cause a taximeter to be inaccurate?*** Some possible causes include: tires not maintained with proper air pressure, incorrect tire size, or any work or modifications to the transmission.
- ✓ ***Who can I call for questions or to get information regarding laws and regulations?*** Call our Weights and Measures Program at (858) 694-2778 and ask to speak with an inspector or supervisor.